ment/agencies to provide reasonable level of Plan and Non-Plan grants to the universities/colleges established by them.

The details of the grants released to the Universities in Assam during the last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the University	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Assam University	544.07	502.53	658.89
2.	Tezpur University	269.52	269.32	482.05
3.	Dibrugarh University	37.75	60.62	86.11
4.	Gauhati University	108.20	65.71	106.11
5.	Assam Agricultural University	NIL	NIL	NIL

Control over IGNCA

1904. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) is the only trust of Government which has provision for life time trustees and a president for life;

(b) whether the amendments made in the IGNCA trust deed in 1995 are unprecedented and abolish any reasonable control of Government over an institution set up by it and fully funded through public money;

(c) whether Government would ask the CAG to conduct an audit of IGNCA accounts since 1987, as serious financial irregularities have been reported; and

(d) what other steps Government propose to take on immediate basis to ensure greater control and accountability of IGNCA?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) IGNCA is the only Trust attached to the Department of Culture which has life trustees now.

(b) The following substantive changes were made in the IGNCA Trust Deed in 1995.

(i) **Composition of Trust** — As per the original deed there were no life trustees. The first appointment of all the trustees was to be made by the Government. The Government had also a role in the appointment of new trustees against the vacancies arising from the retirement of trustees.

As per the amended deed founder trustees were made trustees for life. The Government of India have no role now in regard to appointment of trustees.

(ii) **President of the Trust** — As per original deed, President's term was for ten years.

As per amended deed, President as on 31st October, 1991 is made President for Life.

(iii) **Member - Secretary** — As per the original deed, the Member-Secretary was to be appointed by Government of India.

As per amended deed, Member-Secretary will be appointed by Trustees themselves.

(iv) **Periodic Review** — The original deed provided that the President of India shall be the visitor of the IGNCA, and the visitor may set up from time to time a Review Committee to review the working

of the IGNCA. The recommendations and suggestions of the Review Committee, as are accepted by the Government of India in consultation with the Trust, shall be binding on the Trust.

This provision was deleted in the amendments.

(v) **Amendment, Alteration & Modification of the Trust Deed** — The Original trust deed provided that amendments, alterations or modifications of the trust deed shall come into effect only after the prior written approval of the Government of India.

The amended trust deed has no such stipulation.

(c) Earlier the accounts of IGNCA were audited by C&AG from 1987 to 1993-94. On the request of the Government C&AG has taken up audit of accounts of IGNCA for subsequent years also.

(d) The opinion of the Attorney General has been sought on the amendments carried out to the Trust deed and the options open to Government.

BCA Exam by IGNOU

1905. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that examination for BCA being conducted by IGNOU, New Delhi was scheduled to be held on 1st June, 1998 onward;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the candidates did not receive the Roll Numbers till 26th May, 1998 and the authorities did not respond to these hapless candidates;

(c) whether the behaviour shown by Regional Director, IGNOU towards the candidates was most unbecoming of a Government servant posted in such a responsible position; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to transfer the Regional Director, IGNOU immediately?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), for the Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) programmes, a candidate who is registered in January can appear for foundation courses in June examination. The last date for registration with late fee was 15-5-1998 for June 1998 examination. The examination intimation slips were despatched by the University on 16.5.1998 & 19-5-1998 by Speed Post. In some cases, candidates approached the University with certain difficulties in submitting their registration from and the students were given permission by May 27, 1998 to take examination.

(c) and (d) The IGNOU has 19 Regional Centres located at various parts of the country. The Regional Directors of these centres attend to the demands made by a large number of students for services of different kinds. They try to respond to the students' need and services required by them; but at times due to certain constraints they are not able to satisfy many of them.

India as Illiteracy Capital of the World

1906. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is considered as the illiterate Capital of the World; and

(b) the steps proposed to overcome the problems of illiteracy especially in girl child?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) It is estimated that India hals the largest number of illiterates in the world.

(b) The Government of India have adopted a three-pronged strategy to eliminate illiteracy:

— Adult Education Programmes under National Literacy Mission (NLM);